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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Radio Service

OFFICE OF INFORMATION

PROGRAM Primer for Town Farmers RELEASE Thurs., Mar. 31.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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ANNOUNCEMENT: W. R. B. is going to tell you how to grow early vegetables in his talk tonight. This is the eighth and last of the series of talks in the Primer for Town Farms released by Uncle Sam through Station_____.

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My neighbor, Smith, is one of those town farmers who is quite a fan for flowers, but still keeps a plot of ground about 30 by 40 feet on which he grows a few beans, peas, a bed of lettuce, a few spring onions, a small block of Lima beans, 25 or 30 tomato plants trained to stakes, and carrots, radishes, beets, and peppers. Smith has been spading this plot of ground and working compost into it for the last two or three weeks, doing the work evenings when the soil was in good condition to work. He has just finished planting peas, lettuce, and radishes. A few evenings ago he dropped in to see me. I was putting the finishing touches to a piece of ground where I intend to plant beans as soon as the soil warms up a little. He asked me what I was going to plant there.

"I'm going to put early beans in here," I replied. "Two kinds: Giant Stringless Green Pod and Early Bountiful."

"Why do you plant two kinds?" he wanted to know.

"Because the Giant Stringless Green Pod develops quite early. The Early Bountiful has a flat pod and we like a change. The flavors are a little different, too."

"Isn't it still plenty early to plant beans?" Smith asked.

I told him yes-- that he could wait a while yet.

"What kind of peas have you planted in your early garden?" Smith wanted to know next.

"Little Marvel," I replied. "It's a dwarf-growing sort and doesn't require supports. Then it's a wrinkled pea, of very fine flavor. Personally, I plant Little Marvel for my earliest because I don't care for the Alaska, which is only a few days earlier. The main thing to remember is to get a variety that suits your particular locality and climate best. That's true of all vegetables of course."

"My beets were too thick last year," said Smith. "I didn't sow the seed so thick but when they came up I had to thin and thin for several evenings before I had them down to the right distance."

"You probably put in plenty of seed," said I, "But if you will examine the beet seed, you will find that each of the "balls" contains two or three individual seeds. This accounts for their coming so thick. If your seed is good, one seed-ball every three or four inches in the row is plenty. I dare say you sowed 10 or 12 of these seed-balls every three inches when you planted your beets last year. Get fresh seed. Then sow it sparingly. Of course, you might use the thinnings for greens. Then, when the small beets are about the size of a 25¢ piece, they can be cooked, top and all."

"How about spinach?" asked neighbor Smith. "Would you advise me to plant some of that?"

"I certainly would," I replied. "If you can grow it in your section of the country. Make a bed along one end of your garden, say 5 feet wide, and drill the rows of spinach seed about 4 inches apart. Not too thickly. This will give you all the early spinach you want. Don't be afraid to make the ground rich. Put on some sifted poultry manure and work it into the top three inches of soil. After your spinach is up and growing nicely, scatter a little fertilizer between the rows and scratch it into the soil. To be tender it must grow quickly. So don't fail to make the soil rich."

"How about head lettuce? I noticed last year you had some very fine heads in your own garden. How did you start the plants?"

"Well, really I didn't start them myself. A friend of mine, who has a greenhouse, started plants for his own use. He furnished me with about 25 plants each of four or five of the leading varieties. I found the May King variety earliest and really the finest of the lot. The Big Boston proved a little coarse, but the May King and the Salamander were both of very excellent quality."

"You have your tomato plants in pots, haven't you?" Smith asked.

"Yes. They're in 6-inch flower pots. By the time it's safe to set them in the ground, they'll have filled those pots with roots. I'll just knock the plants loose from the pots and set them--ball of earth and all in the open ground, then watch them grow."

"If it weren't for having vegetables fresh from my own garden I wouldn't bother with a vegetable garden at all," Smith observed.

"Neither would I," I replied. "I expect every bunch of radishes or beets, grown in my own garden, to cost me in labor and time about twice what I could buy them for. But as you say, they're fresher when you raise 'em yourself. Of course, you have the insects to fight. It's some job, too. If it weren't for the progress scientists have made recently in devising poisons, repellants, and poison gases for these hordes of insects, the town farmer certainly would be out of luck."

"Yes--sir," said Smith, "I lost some of my best tomato plants last year because I didn't protect them from cutworms. I didn't see any cutworms in the ground when I planted the tomatoes. But next morning three or four of the best plants were cut off just above the ground. I believe you told me that you have a way of preventing this. What is it?"

"It's very simple," said I. "All I do is take some thin cardboard, --cut it into pieces about 4 or 5 inches square, -- roll these into tubes around a lead pencil, -- and place one of these tubes around the stem of each tomato plant as I set it in the ground. I sink the cardboard about two inches into the ground and have three inches above ground. If the cardboard. If the cardboard doesn't fit reasonably close around the stem of the tomato plant, I tie it with a piece of string to hold it up snug to the plant. Then Mr. Cutworm can't get up on the inside. If I happen to lose a tomato plant to the cutworms, I dig carefully around the destroyed plant until I find Mr. Cutworm tucked away under a clod, perhaps an inch or two below the surface of the ground. Then I finish him before planting another plant to replace the one that was cut off. I rarely ever lose a plant when I put the paper protectors around them."

"How long do you leave the protectors around the plants?" asked Smith.

"Until the plants are so tough and woody the cutworms won't bother them -- usually about 4 weeks," I replied. "Sometimes I never take them off. I use a similar method for protecting cabbage and cauliflower plants. It's simple and easy and it doesn't take long to put the collars on a small number of plants."

"Thanks," said Smith. "I'm going to see how much I can grow on my little plot of ground this year. So watch out for your own honors."

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Radio Service

OFFICE OF INFORMATION

PROGRAM Primer for Town Farmers RELEASE Thurs. Mar. 17.

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(NOT FOR PUBLICATION)

ANNOUNCEMENT: Some spring thoughts about gardening, is the subject of the garden talk tonight. This is the sixth of a new series of the talks in the Primer for Town Farmers by W. R. B., who is one of Uncle Sam's garden advisors. This is released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture through Station_____.

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"Did you notice how my bulbs are peeping through so early this spring?" asked neighbor Smith over the hedge the other morning, "and my iris roots that I planted last fall are all up."

"So are mine," I replied, "They're just peeking their heads through the mulch of compost I placed over them last fall. The flower buds of the daffodils and the tulips will soon be up, too. I'm going to drive a few stakes around the beds and stretch some wire netting all around for protection. Neighbor dogs and then the youngsters forget sometimes, you know.

"Say, are you going to buy any gladioli bulbs this year?" I asked.

"Yes, I am", replied Smith, "I want to scatter them all through that broad border at the back of the lawn. They add such a variety of color and last so long".

"I want a supply myself", I replied, "suppose we combine our order and get them right away before the best selections are all gone. It's a good idea to spade some compost into the border right away. You can use poultry house cleanings in moderate quantities, but some regular barn-lot compost will be desirable because your soil needs humus or organic matter worked into it."

"How about using pulverized sheep manure for flowers?" asked neighbor Smith.

"All right", I replied, "but remember that sheep manure is very concentrated. Don't use too much. It should be well mixed with the soil. This material is especially rich in nitrogen which is the element that makes leafy plants grow rapidly. Nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia will make plants grow rapidly, but the manure has the advantage that it adds organic matter to the soil."

"I have been wanting to ask you for some time about fertilizers in general", said neighbor Smith, "I notice that you lay particular stress upon the use of the various animal manures for growing flowers and vegetables. As I understand the matter, plants require certain mineral elements for their growth and that nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash are the ones that are particularly lacking in most soils. Why wouldn't it be just as well to put on the chemicals and be done with it?"

"Well", I replied, "the addition of chemical fertilizers will add the mineral elements but they add little or no humus or organic matter to the soil and so do not supply all that the plants need for growth. Organic matter is added in large quantities in manure. Besides manure contains considerable quantities of the necessary mineral elements. Most flowers and vegetables too, for that matter, require plenty of organic matter in the soil. It aids in holding moisture making the soil like a sponge, capable of holding a large amount of water without being really wet."

"How about peonies", asked neighbor Smith, "should they be planted now and what special fertilizers and treatment do they require?"

"Yes", I replied, "peonies may be planted now or during the early fall. They want a rich soil. Some authorities claim that manure should not be placed in direct contact with their roots, but that the ground should be heavily manured in advance of planting them, and the manure mixed with the soil very thoroughly."

What is the meaning of 'Single Eyes' and 'Double Eyes', as used in connection with peony plants?" asked Smith.

"Peony plants consist of divisions of older roots", I replied, "and the terms 'Single eye' and 'Double eye' are used to designate the number of eyes contained on each section of root. Two buds to each root are better for planting than one. However, good sturdy plants can be grown from single bud roots."

"How far apart is it necessary to set peonies?" asked neighbor Smith.

"Peonies want plenty of space", I replied "three or four feet apart is not too far, especially if the soil is rich and you are after fine, large flowers.

"My wife wants a bed of lily-of-the-valley", said my neighbor, "back at her old home in Indiana, her mother had a great bed of these delicate little flowers along the garden fence and last fall she sent us several large clumps of the roots. How should we plant them?"

"Divide the clumps into smaller sections by carefully separating the buds or 'pips' as they are called", I replied, "and set these smaller divisions in a bed of rich soil placing them six or seven inches apart and covering them about an inch. This work should have been done last fall. But if you divide them right away and plant them in their permanent location, they'll be all right. Or you can leave them in the large clumps just where you have them set until next fall, then divide and plant them properly. Lily-of-the-valley do well when planted in a border along the house foundation, provided they are watered well and are not shaded too much.

"Now just one more question", said my neighbor.

"You know that wire fence along the south side of my lot which separates it from the vacant lot adjoining. It looked so unsightly that I planted

Dorothy Perkins roses along it but these roses mildew so badly in this climate. Just about the time they are ready to bloom the mildew appears and not only ruins the blossoms on the Dorothy Perkins, but the mildew seems to spread to my other roses. What would you recommend?"

"Dig out the Dorothy Perkins roses", I replied, "and either plant a variety of climbing rose that is not so subject to mildew, such as Mary Wallace, or cover the fence with some other kind of a vine. There are several other kinds of very beautiful clematis, but the panniculata is one of the best. For a temporary effect you can plant scarlet runner bean."

"Thanks", said Smith. "It's fine to live next door to Uncle Sam's garden advisor, this time of year especially."

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ANNOUNCEMENT: W. R. B. will be on the air again at this period on next Thursday, with other timely garden information.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Radio Service

OFFICE OF INFORMATION

PROGRAM Primer for Town Farmers RELEASE Thurs., Mar. 10.

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

ANNOUNCEMENT: Spring house cleaning in the yard and garden is the subject of our garden talk tonight. This is the fifth of a new series of the talks in the primer for town farmers by W. R. B., who is one of Uncle Sam's garden adviser. This is released by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture through Station___.

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This is clean-up week for the town farmers. All winter long the lawn, the shrubbery, the roses, and other hardy plants have been subjected to the freezing and thawing and storms of winter. The grass is brown in most localities and in some cases the freezing and thawing has loosened the roots of the grass and other plants. In some sections of the country growth has already started, and unless a certain amount of cleaning up is done the lawn and the plants will have a shabby appearance. This is the time of year to do the preliminary work on the lawn. My neighbor Smith has already started his clean-up campaign. I asked him the other day "what he was going to do with the brown patches in his lawn where the children played dodge ball during the winter."

"That is just what I was going to ask you," said neighbor Smith. "I have raked off all of the dead grass and straightened up the borders of the lawn, but I was wondering what was the best thing to do with those spots."

"First," I replied, "I would sow some lawn grass seed over your entire lawn, putting an extra sprinkling over the spots where there is little or no grass, then I would get a few wheelbarrow loads of soil from the back of the lot and sift it over the lawn, using a sieve with about one-fourth inch meshes. It would be a good idea to scatter bone meal all over the lawn before you sift on the soil or better still mix the bone meal with the soil before putting it through the sieve. Then if you can borrow a roller such as the boys used last year on the tennis court and go over your lawn with that, it will settle the soil around the grass roots and give it a better chance to grow.

"I do not know how I am going to keep the children off of these spots," said neighbor Smith "while the young grass is getting started."

"There are two ways of doing that," I replied. "One is to run a little piece of fence around the spots, using chicken wire for the purpose, while another is to get some brush and lay over these spots to keep the kiddies off, perhaps if you tell them to stay off of the newly seeded ground they will do so," I suggested.

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"Oh! that is all right for my kiddies, but the neighbors' children are in the habit of playing in my yard, and I am sure that it will take something more than simply telling them to keep them off of this ground."

"All right," I replied "there is the brush that was trimmed out of your apple trees. Spread it thinly over the newly seeded ground or I will loan you some netting which I used last year in my garden."

"What is the best kind of lawn grass?" asked neighbor Smith.

"That depends," I replied upon the locality, but all through the Northern Central and Northeastern States, except parts of New England, a mixture of Kentucky bluegrass, red top and a very little white clover is considered best. In parts of the New England States and a few other places the Creeping Bent Grasses are used, both for lawns and for golf greens. It all depends on the condition of the soil whether it is an acid soil or an alkaline soil. If it is an acid soil, the creeping bent grasses are best, but if the soil contains plenty of lime, it is an alkaline soil, and the Kentucky Blue grass will thrive upon it."

"Is my soil acid or alkaline?" asked neighbor Smith.

"Off hand, I would say that it is alkaline, in fact, I am sure it is, because blue grass has been growing wuite well upon it."

"You mentioned golf greens," said neighbor Smith. "I am a member of the Fairway Golf Club, and one of our troubles has been to get good grass on our greens."

"That is a very common trouble on golf courses," I replied "and on many of the courses, it has been solved by using either Rhode Island bent grass or some of the closely related creeping bent grasses for the purpose. It is necessary, however, to keep the soil in a more or less acid condition, even though it is well drained in order to have these creeping bent grasses thrive upon them."

"How is this accomplished?" asked neighbor Smith.

"Well," I replied "it is quite an art, but it has been worked out by the people of the Department of Agriculture, and they found that by using sulphate of ammonia as a source of nitrogen for fertilizing their greens that they would get an excellent growth of bent grass upon them. Bent grasses are usually started by transplanting sections of the grass or small pieces of sod. These bent grasses do make a wonderful green if they are well cared for and kept closely clipped."

"What shall I do with this shrubbery that is growing close to the house?" asked neighbor Smith. "It strikes me that it needs pruning, some of the plants are getting entirely too large and I want to cut them back, when shall I do it?"

"Oh! [illegible] it might for my middies, but the mothers' children [illegible] playing in my yard, and I am sure that it will take [illegible] highly telling them to keep their [illegible] of this ground."

"[illegible]," I replied "there is one trash that [illegible] grass of [illegible] spread it thinly over the [illegible] ground or I will [illegible] thing which I used last year in my [illegible]."

"[illegible] kind of [illegible] manure?" asked [illegible] [illegible].

"[illegible] manure," I replied upon the [illegible], but [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] Europe parts of [illegible] England, [illegible] or [illegible] disease, [illegible] a very little [illegible] [illegible] is considerable [illegible]. In parts of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

"Well, take that spiraea for example," I replied. If you would prune it now you would cut off most of the flowering branches for this year, the same thing is true of all the spring blooming shrubs and they do not want to be pruned until after they are through flowering then they can be cut back just as much as you like, even removing all of the old wood and allowing a complete new growth to form. It is best, however, to prune back the old wood with most shrubs and at the same time allow a certain part of the new growth to develop. "It would be all right for you to prune your hydrangeas and other late summer or fall blooming shrubs at this time. In fact, the spring of the year is the proper time to prune everything that blossoms late in the season."

"I think I will move some of those shrubs from alongside of the house," said neighbor Smith. They are beginning to crowd each other too much and I suppose I had better do it as soon as possible."

"You are quite right," I replied, and the sooner you move them the better for they will start growing with the first warm days. If you are going to trim back your hedge, now is the time to do it, don't wait until the new growth starts."

"What should I do with the wisteria that is growing on the trellis over my back porch?" asked neighbor Smith. It made a wonderful growth last year, and has gotten too thick, can I thin it out?"

"Certainly," I replied, "not only thin it out but head back the long branches. It is true that you will cut off some of the blooming wood for this year, but you will have plenty anyway."

"Doesn't wisteria need any special fertilizer?" asked neighbor Smith.

"No," I replied "Its roots are going way out under your lawn and getting everything that it needs. Every time you fertilize the lawn, you are fertilizing the wisteria also. The same is true of your climbing rose, and if you were to dig into the soil you would find its feeding roots a long way from the plant. By the way your climbing rose bush should have a pruning right now before it starts growth. Don't be afraid to cut it back rather severely."

"Thank you," said neighbor Smith, "doesn't it beat all how much there is to do around a place during the spring of the year. It seems like I never can catch up."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Radio Service

OFFICE OF INFORMATION

PROGRAM PRIMER FOR TOWN FARMERS RELEASE Thurs. Mar. 3.

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

ANNOUNCEMENT: Starting the flower garden is the subject of W. R. B.'s garden talk tonight. This is the fourth of a new series of the talks in the primer for town farmers by W. R.B., who is one of Uncle Sam's garden advisers. This is released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture through Station_____.

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"Looks like we were going to have an early spring," said Smith last evening as he came through an opening in the hedge where I was pruning my trees. "It makes me think about getting ready for my flower garden."

"Yes," I replied, "it is springlike today, but just a little early in the season yet to more than just talk about planting flowers."

"How are your dalhia roots keeping," asked my neighbor.

"Fairly well," I replied, "that reminds me, however, that I should sprinkle a little water over them in the cellar to keep them from drying out too much. You see, I have them packed in sand. Along about this time of the year they generally get dry and I have to moisten the sand a little.

"Are you going to start your dahlia bulbs in the coldframe this year?" asked Smith.

"Yes, but I plan to grow my early flowering plants in the coldframe," I told him. "You see I'm not in any particular hurry about starting my dahlias as I want them for fall bloom."

"This spring I want to plant some gladioli bulbs along the fence, and in front of some of the more permanent flowers."

"How early should gladioli bulbs be planted?" asked Smith.

"Just as soon as the ground can be worked to good advantage. I make the rows about 18 inches apart and set the bulbs 6 inches apart in the rows anc cover them about 2 inches deep. Gladioli need a reasonable amount of fertilizer and watering. For this reason, I plant mine where I can reach them with the hose. I like the gladiolus for cutting, because you can cut the spikes of flowers just about the time the first or second flower of each spike opens. Then they will keep on blooming in the house for some time if the water is c changed every day."

"There is a question I have been wanting to ask you," said neighbor Smith. The seed catalogues speak of annual flowering plants, biennial flowering plants and perennials. Of course, I know what annuals are, but what is

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[illegible] subject [illegible] person is [illegible] Time is the [illegible] for [illegible] by R. H. B., [illegible] of [illegible] perhaps advisable. This is reproduced [illegible] portions of [illegible] through [illegible].

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[illegible] we were going to [illegible] early spring, [illegible] earth in [illegible] "[illegible] there I was [illegible] "[illegible]."

"[illegible] public, [illegible] today, [illegible] not to more than [illegible] about planting flowers."

[illegible] "[illegible]," [illegible].

"[illegible] I [illegible], that [illegible], however, [illegible] [illegible] I have [illegible] in mind. Alone about [illegible] [illegible] I have to [illegible] [illegible].

"[illegible] point [illegible] our [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] I [illegible] for [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] for fall bloom."

"[illegible] during I want to plant some gladioli bulbs [illegible] [illegible] of the more [illegible] flowers."

"[illegible] should gladioli bulbs be planted?" [illegible].

"[illegible] the ground can be worked [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] and set the bulbs 6 inches [illegible] [illegible] about 3 inches deep. Gladioli need a [illegible] [illegible] and watering. For this reason, I plant mine where [illegible] [illegible]. I [illegible] gladioli for cutting, [illegible] [illegible] the first or second flower of each [illegible] [illegible] blooming in the [illegible] for some time if [illegible] [illegible]."

"There is a question I have been wanting to ask you," [illegible] [illegible] the seed catalogues speak of annual flowering [illegible] [illegible] of course, I know what annuals [illegible].

the difference between biennials and perennials?"

"The difference is just this," I replied, the annual flower completes its whole period of growth in one season, that is blossoms and bears seed durin one season. A biennial requires two seasons, that is, if the seed is planted this year it will blossom next year. Perennials are those which remain in the ground, year after year, and produce flowers every season. The zinnia is a good example of an annual. The foxglove is a good example of a biennial while the hardy phlox is a good example of the perennial type. They all have their proper place in the flower garden."

"Going back to the question of dahlias," said neighbor Smith, "do you cut the roots into pieces or do you plant the whole root?"

"I divide the clumps of roots and plant each individual root separately in the coldframe," I replied. "Then if it is a particularly desirable variety and I want to get as many plants as possible, I cut the roots into two or more pieces before setting them in the open ground, of course, I leave a good stem to each piece. If there is only one good strong stem on each root, I simply trim off the small or weak stems and plant the entire root with the one strong stem attached. Where I have plenty of roots of a variety, I am not so particular and just plant the entire root and later trim off any weak stems. Some more common varieties, I don't plant them in the coldframe at all but simply put the separate roots in the open ground like I would potatoes."

"How far apart do you think it is necessary to set dahlias?" asked Smith

"On good soil, they should be at least 3 feet apart, 4 feet is better, The main thing, however, is to have a good strong stake 4 or 5 feet in height set alongside of each plant."

The chrysanthemum is another fall flowering plant. The hardy varieties can be kept in the open ground from year to year. It is generally necessary, however, to thin them out or re-set the plants in the spring. As a rule, outdoor chrysanthemums will bloom late in the fall. There is nothing more attractive than a bunch of these outdoor grown chrysanthemums for table decoration. To my mind there is perhaps no flower more attractive than the old-fashioned for-get-me-not. You may have noticed the small bed of for-get-me-nots near our house right close to the water spigot. Quite a few people are making a success of growing for-get-me-nots for cut flowers and the florists are enthusiastic about them. I know a lady who has her entire backyard planted to for-get-me-nots. She sells all the flowers she can produce to one of the large florists.

"What kind of soil do for-get-me-nots require?" asked Mr. Smith.

"They need a rich soil. In fact, plenty of compost should be spaded into the soil before planting them. They also require plenty of moisture, but should not be kept soaking wet. They need fairly good drainage, too. For-get-

"The difference between biennial and perennial?"

"[illegible] difference is just this," I replied, "an annual flower [illegible] its whole period of growth in one season, that is blossoms and [illegible] seed [illegible] one season. A biennial requires two seasons, that is, it [illegible] this year it will bloom next year. Perennials [illegible] the ground, year after year, and produce flowers [illegible]. [illegible] is a good example of an annual. The [illegible] have [illegible] example of a biennial while the hardy phlox is a good example [illegible] type. They all have their proper place in the flower garden."

"Going back to the question of dahlias," said neighbor Smith, "do you cut the roots into pieces or do you plant the whole root?"

"If [illegible] the clumps of roots and [illegible] root [illegible] in the cellar," I replied. "Then [illegible] a suitable [illegible] and I want to get as many plants as possible, I cut the roots into [illegible] pieces before setting them in the open ground, of course, I leave a [illegible] in each piece. If there is only one good strong stem [illegible] with the small or weak stems and plant the entire root with the [illegible] attached. Some [illegible] hardy or roots of a [illegible] for [illegible] plant the entire root and later trim all but one stem. [illegible] very [illegible] varieties, [illegible] plant them in the cellar [illegible] separate roots in the open ground like I would not [illegible]."

"Now for spirea [illegible] I think it is necessary to [illegible]

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nots are easy to grow if the conditions are right for them. Simply set the plants 12 or 14 inches apart and take good care of them and you will be surprised how soon they will cover the ground and produce an abundance of flowers.

Pansies can be planted now and will bloom during the late spring. It is better, however, to sow the seed in September in a coldframe and protect the plants by covering them with a little straw or with pine boughs during the winter. It is surprising how many pansy plants can be sold on the market in the early spring, especially if they are of a good variety and have large well colored blossoms. There is nothing nicer than pansies for a border, especially in the front of the house where everybody can see their cheerful blossoms early in the spring before almost anything else is in bloom.

We have talked before about sweet peas, but sweet peas are so attractive that they will bear repeating quite often. I plant mine just as soon as the frost is out of the ground and I plant them just like I would garden peas, that is, in rows about 3 feet apart and then I put up a wire trellis or stretch strings to stakes for themto climb upon. Of the two methods, I prefer string. I set stakes every 8 or 10 feet and stringing the cord on both sides of the stakes, so that the peas can grow up between the strings. Sweet peas require a very rich soil and plenty of moisture and they do best during seasons when the weather remains quite cool until late in the spring. They do not stand hot weather.

"There are so many kinds of flowers that I would like to plant," said neighbor Smith, "that I don't know where to stop."

"That's true," I replied, "but you had better select 6 or 8 of the kinds that are best suited to your soil and climate and give them especial attention rather than to attempt too many."

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ANNOUNCEMENT: This concludes W. R. B's flower chat. Again next week at this period, this garden advisor will continue the discussion.

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